



## BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

May 11, 2015

5:30 p.m. Basement Thorman Conference Room  
801 Texas Ave., City Bldg. 3, El Paso, Texas

### MINUTES

#### Members Present: 6

District 3 – Deanna A. De La Cruz  
District 4 – Roy Gilyard  
District 5 – Theresa Welch Fordham  
District 6 – Francoise A. Feliberti  
District 7 – Sylvia Carreon  
District 8 – Ana P. Roush

#### Members Absent: 1

District 1 – David Turner

#### Vacancies: 2

Mayor – Vacant  
District 2 – Vacant

#### City Staff Present

##### *Parks and Recreation*

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director  
Paula Powell, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director  
Joel McKnight, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director  
Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Park Coordinator  
Steve Lunsford, Land Management Superintendent  
Wright Stanton III, Aquatics Manager  
Dennis Elengold, Sports Coordinator  
Mary Camacho, Senior Office Assistant

##### *Facilities/Fleet Services*

Victor Rivera, Facilities Superintendent

##### *City Attorney*

Lauren Ferris

#### Public Present

Richard Velasquez, Ashley Macias, Ms. Lopez, Sergio Cox

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order  
Theresa Welch Fordham, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.
2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: April 13, 2015  
Motion by Sylvia Carreon to approve minutes as written. Second by Deanna De La Cruz. Motion carried (unanimous).
3. Agenda Item #3. Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda)  
None

4. Agenda Item #4. Discussion: Rules of Order – Lauren Ferris, Assistant City Attorney  
Lauren Ferris, Assistant City Attorney, reviewed the Rules of Order as it pertains to the agenda of open meetings. Clarification on “Discussion and Action” items, “Distribution only” and violation in the Open Meetings Act.
5. Subcommittees:
  - a. Park Naming / Changing Subsommittee
    1. Discussion and Action: Application to name a facility room in the proposed Westside Pool Aquatic Center at 650 Wallenberg Drive, to Lottie Uranga Room  
  
Motion by Roy Gilyard to delete the item from the agenda, applicant has withdrawn his application to name a facility room in the proposed Westside Pool Aquatic Center at 650 Wallenberg Drive, to Lottie Uranga Room. Second by Sylvia Carreon. Motion carried (unanimous).
  - b. Grievance Subcommittee
    1. Discussion and Action: Appeal of Suspension of Andrew T. Vallejo for five (5) years for Violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Depatment’s Behavior Management Policy.  
  
Deanna De La Cruz, Chair for the Grievance Subcommittee, gave a brief synopsis of the meeting on May 4, 2015. The Subcommittee recommendations are:
      - reduce the suspension for Andrew T. Vallejo to two (2) years
      - uphold one (1) year suspension for Richard Velasquez
      - uphold five (5) year suspension for Daniel A. Espino
      - uphold five (5) year suspension for Daniel A. Espino Jr.  
Discussion ensued on the altercation and suspension issued pursuant to penalty matrix.. Dennis Elengold, Sports Coordinator, explained the procedure when an altercation of this nature occurs (Police are immediately contacted for assistance).  
  
Sergio Cox, retired police officer, was a referee at the games when the altercation occurred. He witnessed the incident and gathered information (jersey numbers and names). Police reports were made by a female (Ms. Lopez) who had her nose broken.  
  
Public comment: Richard Velasquez and Ms. Lopez both spoke on the events leading up to the altercation and Parks staff actions to control the situation.  
  
Motion by Sylvia Carreon to reduce the suspension of Andrew T. Vallejo from five (5) years to two (2) years for Violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department’s Behavior Management Policy. Second by Deanna De La Cruz. Motion carried (unanimous).
2. Discussion and Action: Appeal of Suspension of Richard Velasquez for one (1) year for Violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Depatment’s Behavior Management Policy.  
  
Discussion followed on the penalty matrix and the use of force by Mr. Velasquez in an effort to rescue a female that received severe injuries during the altercation.  
  
Motion by Sylvia Carreon to uphold the one (1) year suspension for Violation of the City of El paso Parks and Recreation Department’s Behavior Management Policy. Second by Francoise Feliberti. Motion carried (4 Ayes, 2 Nays – Theresa Fordham, Roy Gilyard).

3. Discussion and Action: Appeal of Suspension of Daniel A. Espino for five (5) years for Violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's Behavior Management Policy

Noted: Daniel A. Espino absent

Motion by Sylvia Carreon to uphold staff recommendation of five (5) year suspension for Daniel A. Espino for Violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's Behavior Management Policy. Second by Francoise Feliberti. Motion carried (unanimous).

4. Discussion and Action: Appeal of Suspension of Daniel A. Espino Jr. for five (5) years for Violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's Behavior Management Policy.

Noted: Daniel A. Espino Jr. absent

Motion by Sylvia Carreon to uphold staff recommendation of five (5) year suspension for Daniel A. Espino Jr. for Violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's Behavior Management Policy. Second by Deanna De La Cruz. Motion carried (unanimous).

6. Agenda Item #6. Update and Discussion: Land Management Activities – Steve Lunsford, Land Management Superintendent

Steve Lunsford, Land Management Superintendent, updated the Board on the following items:

- Irrigation and fertilizer program complete
- Spray program for game fields
- Playground surfaces reconditioned
- Washed out landscaping repairs
- Mowing contractors – biweekly
- No smoking ordinance – replacing Park signage

7. Agenda Item #7. Discussion: Parking at City Building 3, 801 Texas Avenue

Theresa Fordham, Chair, requested this item on the agenda for discussion. Would like to know if other members have problems with parking. Majority of the members preferred attending meeting at City Building 3. Discussion followed on the available parking around the building, changing the hour of the meeting, and parking fees.

8. Agenda Item #8. Discussion: Quality of Life Bond Swimming Pools Update – Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, gave updates on all the QOL swimming pools and answered questions from the Board. Following items were discussed:

- Westside Pool grounding breaking later part of May
- Eastside – 50 meter pool with amenities (water slide, winding river, etc.) to go to Council soon
- Future of aquatics – Chelsea & Lionel Forti replacement, concept would include interactive amenities
- Splash pads – free, zero water depth feature in each of the districts (8).
- Pool closures possible and/or replacements

Discussion followed on Pavo Real Pool / possible recommendations and first splash pad to be located at Sue Young Park in Northeast El Paso.

9. Reports on Recent Activity

- a. Recent City Council Agenda Items List
- b. Upcoming Committee Meetings List
- c. Land Acquisition List
- d. Parks and Recreation Construction Projects Lists

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, stated the reports on recent activity referenced above are included in the packet and are also public record on the City's website.

Tracy reported that the Kern View Estates were purchased by the City. This was an open space acquisition.

10. Agenda Item #10. Discussion and Action: Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)

Theresa Welch Fordham, Chair, reported that as Chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board she could no longer chair a subcommittee and therefore designated Roy Gilyard as the Chair for the Park Naming Subcommittee.

11. Agenda Item #11. Discussion: Identify Items for Future Agendas

Theresa Fordham, Chair, requested regular meeting of June 8<sup>th</sup> be held on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Fordham will be out of town on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Meeting to be polled for June 1, 2015.

- Budget Update
- Discussion - Penalty Matrix of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Policy
- Discussion - food trucks vs. concession stands
- Clarification on fees for rental of shelters
- Dog Waste Ordinance (Fines & Enforcement)
- Park Board Replacements

12. Adjournment - 7:10 p.m.

Notes by:

Mary Camacho, Senior Office Assistant

Paula Powell, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director

Minutes submitted by Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant